

CLASSIFICATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

CD NO.

25X1A2g

COUNTRY Austria

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE DISTR. 24 March 1949

SUBJECT Statements Made at Meeting at Communist  
Party District Headquarters, Vienna II

NO. OF PAGES 1 25X1A2a

PLACE  
ACQUIRED [REDACTED]NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO [REDACTED]

SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1A2a  
REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

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1.

At a meeting at Communist Party District Headquarters of Vienna II, on 16 March 1949, District Secretary Krenn (fnu) claimed that he had learned at a recent secret meeting that a large Communist demonstration is being planned to take place on the date the Austrian Parliament convenes to discuss the occupation tax. All factories where the Communist Party is represented will send shop steward delegations to demonstrate in front of the Parliament building. In case of police interference, couriers will be sent to the factories to call the workers out on a general strike. The workers will then march to the Parliament. Violent police action will be welcome to the Communist Party, since this would afford the opportunity for vigorous countermeasures. Krenn termed the proposed demonstration the first show of Communist strength in the election year, which will prove the growing Communist Party strength to the working class.\*

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2.

The Communist Party Central Committee is attempting to persuade Erwin Scharf to support the Communist Party ticket in the coming elections. Scharf is allegedly recalcitrant, but the Central Committee has pointed out to him that without the Party machine he cannot obtain the minimum requirement of 40,000 votes to gain a seat in Parliament. The Central Committee has allegedly guaranteed Scharf a percentage of parliamentary seats for his followers in return for his submission to the Communist Party request.\*\*

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**Comment:** This recalls a similar tactic in the form of demonstrations against the occupation tax, which was reported in [REDACTED]. In line with the above, are the Communist protests against the tax, which have been reported in the press. However, the tax bill has not yet been reported to have been released by the Finance Committee. Therefore, it will probably not be submitted to Parliament during this session which ends on 31 March. Barring an unexpected effort to push the bill through, it will remain in committee until the new session convenes early in May.

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**Comment:** In view of the limited number of Communist Party mandates, a Communist guarantee to Scharf of a percentage of parliamentary seats seems unlikely.

This document is hereby regraded to  
CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the  
letter of 16 October 1978 from the  
Director of Central Intelligence to the  
Ambassador of the United States.

Next Review Date: 16 OCT 1982  
ARMY 21 OCT 1982

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No CHANGE in Class.  
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